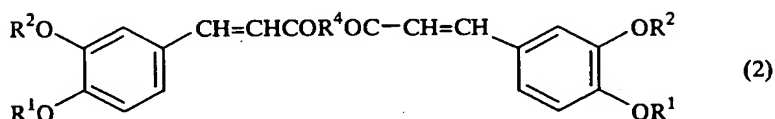
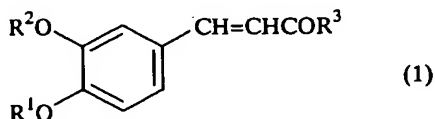


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating hypertension, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula (1) or (2):



wherein, R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a cycloalkenyl group, an alkoxyalkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, an aralkyl group or an acyl group, R^3 represents a hydroxyl group, an ester bond residue, or an amide bond residue, R^4 represents an ester bond residue or an amide bond residue, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof (except ferulic acid).

2. A method of Claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (1) or (2) is rosmarinic acid, curcumin, or phenethyl caffeate.

3. A method of Claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (1) or (2) is 3-caffeoylquinic acid, 4-caffeoylquinic acid, or 5-caffeoylquinic acid.